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A Prayer for the Enemy.

The moving finger is writing so swiftly at Vienna, at Budapest, and probably at Berlin, that the eye can scarcely follow the sequence of epoch making events or grasp their full significance to the world of the future. The awful drama that began with the insolent ultimatum to Serbia, intended both by its Hapsburg authors and its Hohenzollern instigators to precipitate the war that has now gone against them, is ending with the doom of empires and the crash of thrones. Victorious Civilization is watching daily the most majestic manifestation of Divine Justice, effected through human agencies, that history has ever recorded or perhaps ever will record.

As we get in rapid succession the news of the culminating developments of the four years tragedy, the reports of riot and assassination, of fallen and falling dynasties, of national disintegration and destruction, of the violent appearance of long submerged passion and lawless power, one thought and one hope must be common to all.

For the sake of the innocent or half innocent in enemy lands, the hearts now bitterest toward the responsible authors of the great crime for which the whole world has suffered through years of sacrifice and agony must pray that we may not witness in German Austria, in Hungary, or in Prussia itself, that which we have already witnessed in Russia, our friend.

Liberty Loans and Liberty Votes.

The magnificent success of the Fourth Liberty Loan is measured by the totals announced yesterday, after a necessary period of delay.

Every Federal Reserve district has largely exceeded its quota. The subscriptions aggregate $6,866,416,300. The individual subscribers number more than 21,000,000.

We congratulate Secretary McAdoo, we congratulate the efficient managers of the unprecedented campaign, but most of all we congratulate the American people.

And we wonder how large is the Republican majority of the twenty-one million American subscribers who would be deprived of effective representation in the Congress and in the Government of the United States if the republic should respond to the appeal of President WOODROW WILSON printed just one week ago.

The Allied Successes in Italy.

The Italians have broken the Austrian line in the Monte Grappa region, the strongest mountain defence on the enemy's front. The success of the offensive was so marked that the Italian War Office reports a "complete collapse" of Austrian resistance in this section, and states that it is impossible to estimate the number of prisoners "who are coming down from the mountains in flocks." The Allied gains along the upper Piave have been as great. With the assistance of the British, French and Americans the Italians have passed twenty-five miles east of the river and are now in control of Austrian bases and of the railways that have furnished supplies and reenforcements to the Austrian armies.

This advance began, almost to a day, a year after the retirement from the Isonzo region. That the Allied command had not coordinated this movement with the offensive in France and the Balkans was due largely to the situation along the Italian front and to the understanding of internal conditions in Austria. After their brilliant successes on the lower Piave early in the summer the Italians were holding their enemy so securely in check as to make further Austrian advance into central Italy practically impossible. In the meantime the deficiency in guns and troops was met by a supply of heavy artillery and the gradual increase of the British, French and American contingents in Italy.

Even had not the present conditions arisen in Austria, there is every reason to believe that with the thorough preparation made the offensive would have been successful. The first blow was struck at the bitterly contested Montello bend, and with this point won the Allied forces in two days were in control of the entire front from the Adriatic to the mountains of the Tyrol. More than 50,000 prisoners, according to official reports, have been taken, the Austrian army on the lower Piave has been cut off from the army in the Italian highlands, and the way has been opened for the speedy recovery of northern Italy.

The success of the offensive in Italy, coming at the time of revolts and dissensions, has had a material effect in hastening the demand of both the Austrian army and Austrian people for a cessation of hostilities. The appeal of the Austrian commander for an armistice has not halted the advance, nor is such a preliminary to peace likely to stay the Italians' advance. Their victories have strengthened their determination to regain their losses of a year ago and to assure the occupation of the territory which will restore to Italy the people of the "unredeemed provinces."

Elect American Lawmakers!

It is of supreme consequence that the high interest aroused in the national political contest and the struggle for executive State offices should not obscure the importance of choosing a Legislature of patriotic, simon pure Americans on Tuesday.

The political parties in New York through their political leaders and at the primary election have recognized the necessities of the occasion, and in a number of districts where division of the American voters threatened to bring about the election of candidates opposed to American ideals they have united to concentrate their strength behind candidates whose devotion to the principles underlying our Government is unquestioned. This subordination of partisan opinion to national unity is exemplified by the union candidacy of ex-Representative GOLDFOGLE for Congress in the Twelfth district, now represented by MEYER LONDON, and by the union candidacy of SOL ULLMAN for the Assembly in the Sixth district against ROSENBERG, who opposed the sending of a Lincoln Day message of good cheer and encouragement to our troops in France.

The first duty of every elector this year is to make sure that under no circumstances shall his vote contribute directly or by indirection to the success at the polls of a nominee for office whose loyalty to America does not assay 100 per cent. pure. In every district in which there exists even a remote possibility that American rivalries may let an un-American candidate slip in, the American vote must unite to prevent such a humiliation.

Picking the Birdmen.

One Royal Flying Corps cadet out of four eventually reaches the air over the enemy lines, according to a British authority. American statistics are not readily available, and at any rate would be less valuable because based upon briefer experience. But we do know that rigid as are the physical and psychological tests imposed upon our applicants, still a large proportion of men pass them who never become successful pilots.

The result is congestion of the training schools, a great waste of time, money and effort which would be avoided if only an infallible system might be devised for separating the applicants who never could learn to fly well from those who surely can. Physicians, psychologists and military men are expending their best thought upon the problem, not with the hope of attaining infallibility, but of more closely approximating it.

The training officer at the flying school likes to talk about "born fliers," "natural aviators," men with "hands" and the "knack." The materialistic philosophy of the man of science rejects all this as bordering upon the mystic. The instructor notes that a cadet is "unlucky" with machines and says "He's not a born flier." So he turns him out. But the physician discovers that it was some subtle physical defect which caused the cadet's clumsiness, and devises a test to detect the flaw in future applicants.

Dr. J. C. MCWALTER in the *Medical Press* records, for example, that diseases of the labyrinth of the ear which would make no difference to the health and happiness of the ordinary man from the cradle to the grave and never would be detected, become a source of peril to the aviator—one of the most frequent causes of disaster, he asserts. These little known ailments give rise at high altitudes "not only to vertigo and dizziness, but to a lack of that sense of equilibration and location which is the very essence of the successful flying man. Also it has been found that those aviators who experience most difficulty in judging of the distance from the ground when approaching a landing place are frequently the subject of this defect." He adds:

"Even a tendency to wax in the ears seems to produce a dangerous giddiness and vertigo. The color tests should also be stringent, as it is through this sense that judgment as to the exact distance of the ground when about to land is rendered accurate."

The London *Lancet* presents an attack upon the problem from the other—the training officer's—viewpoint. Captain T. S. RIPPON and Lieutenant E. C. MANUEL of the Royal Flying Corps tried by studying the essential characteristics of successful airmen to form a composite picture. The nearer the aspiring candidate comes to conforming with the outlines of this portrait the greater the chance of his turning out well; the further his divergence from it the less the probability of his success in the air. That is their theory. Here is their picture of the average sucessful aviator:

He is under 25. He is unmarried; the married pilot is inclined to overmuch caution. He is full of high spirits and possesses high vitality, so much so that "he seems to require for his well being at least one really riotous evening a month." Not an alcoholic evening, necessarily, although he uses alcohol to some extent in the mess while on duty at the front. He is fond of the theatre, of music, particularly ragtime, and cards and dancing. He lacks imagination, yet he has a sense of humor. He possesses resolution, initiative, presence of mind, and has, above all, "hands." As to "hands":

"The horse rider with good hands is able to sense the mentality of a horse by the feel of the reins and also to convey his desires accurately to his mount. We have never known of a man who has consistently been in the first flight in the hunting field making anything but a good pilot. In the same way the pilot with good hands . . . is invariably a good flier, never unconsciously throws an undue strain on the machine, just as a good riding man will never make a horse's mouth bleed. 'Hands' appear to be congenital and cannot be acquired."

So far, so good. But when the authors went on to assert "their definite conviction that the less the fighting scout pilot knows about his machine from a mechanical point of view the better" they stirred up a controversy in England. "From the very nature of his work," the authors argued, "he must be prepared to throw the machine about and at times subject it to such strains that did he realize how near he was to the breaking point his nerve would go very quickly."

Does knowledge then breed timidity? Is ignorant recklessness really superior to wisely calculated daring?

Does it harm the pilot to know how to adjust a carbureter or to find a loose bearing? There have been many expert machinists who distinguished themselves in the air. The problem is difficult; psychologists and physicians and the military authorities will learn better how to identify the hopeless would-be fliers, but they will never learn how to pick the aces out of the queue of applicants until a system is devised for picking future Pershings among the West Point plebes. For the hawk man is a combination of fighter and athlete and something more.

The War Time Waiters.

Since 1912, when the hotel and restaurant waiters of this city fell under the influence of the Industrial Workers of the World and resorted to violence to intimidate their employers, the service given in even the most pretentious establishments has been unsatisfactory to their managers and to their patrons. Here and there an intelligent waiter has endeavored to perform his duties in a way to win approval; some eating houses have maintained standards higher than others; but generally it may be said that the dining rooms have not been as well handled as they were before the doctrine of wholesale poisoning was preached as a necessary part of the waiter's training.

There have been disputes, quarrels, strikes and lockouts in the last five years until the owners of eating places have been driven to desperation. The guests have refrained from taking sides, recognizing instinctively that in neither camp had they any friends, their sole function being to get a little food and provide the spoil over which the struggle raged. Whatever happened, they suffered, in service and in pocket.

Now the waiters have called another strike, and an important fraction of the hotel managers of the town have decided to adopt the heroic course of employing women to serve food in their houses, with men to serve alcoholic drinks, which under the law of this State must not be conveyed from the bar to the table by a woman. The experiment, according to the hotel proprietors, is "working well"; the guests are "indifferent" or "seem pleased." Perhaps; guests have been reduced to a condition of tractability in which they are willing to accept almost anything in these abnormal times; there is no reason why a woman should not put food on the table in edible condition, and to get food in that condition is the real reason why men visit restaurants. But we distrust the reports of enthusiasm for the innovation and shall not accept them as authentic until they have been proved.

Meanwhile, waiters are classified by General CROWDER as engaged in non-essential employment, and a good many of them unquestionably might well be put at benches in factories. There they would get war time pay, perhaps almost equalling their former wages and tips; and when normal conditions are restored in other callings it will be interesting to see if the women stay in the dining rooms and the ex-waiters stay in the occupations fate now provides for them.

Let no woman voter be a Kitchinette on Tuesday next.

After a football game in Chicago on Wednesday five members of the Northwestern University team were in hospital, Coach STAGG's son with a broken collarbone. The casualty list of Loyola Academy is not mentioned, probably not yet tabulated. We are downright in favor of sports, but we feel it a duty to remind the Northwestern Faculty Committee in charge of varsity athletics that all hospital beds in this country must be reserved for the reception of our wounded from over there.

A communication from Switzerland bears the information that VON BERNSTORFF has been recalled to Berlin as an authority on America. His interpretation of American sentiment at the present moment would make interesting reading.

Cunning are the ways of the Wets. Not a play, not a trick of the game but they are right there for the advantage. That good citizen of Newark who passed away recently after living nearly 105 years, who played leapfrog with his great-great-grandchildren until last year, when he had to give up the sport because he put on spectacles, who is mourned by 110 descendants, is reported, observe, to have attributed his more than a century of sturdy health to a lifelong practice of eating and drinking when and what he pleased. How is it that our friends the Drys fail to card index and report their own significant cases of longevity from abstinence?

Exactly three hundred years have elapsed since Bohemia fell under Hapsburg domination at the opening of the Thirty Years war. And to-day the Bohemians have at last regained their sovereign freedom in a new founded republic. This is the justice, though long delayed, which the Allies are bringing the suppressed nationalities of Europe.

Despite the fact that his cherished project is war to eternity, the successor to LUDENDORFF, General GROENER, has been appointed with the prospect that the task of demobilization will be his.

Marshal FOCH's ideas are predominating.—*Report from the Interallied War Council.*

Then nobody except the Prussian militarists need worry.

To General ESPEREY goes the credit for cutting the Berlin to Bagdad railway. The Berlin-Vienna route was pierced on Thursday by the Czech army. And the one remaining line of importance, Berlin to Potsdam, can be entrusted to the care of the German people themselves.

With FOCH on the porch, DIAZ at the back door and Versailles on the telephone, Germania can choose to whom she wishes to surrender.

THE SCOTLAND NECK ISSUE.

A Presbyterian Clergyman on American Prussianism.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* You are waging a great fight against American Prussianism. Your editorial article of Thursday showing how the South, the backward portion of the country, is ruling it for sectional interests, will ever live as a great contribution.

So long as the eight millions of colored citizens are refused a part in the Government which they are called upon to uphold and die for, democracy is a sham in America. So long as a portion of the country through selfishness will use autocratic powers to enrich itself at the expense of the others, democracy is a rank failure and needs remodelling.

The South is as much justified in demanding the elimination of the Republicans from the Government at this time as it has been in enforcing the elimination of almost one-half of its voters for nearly fifty years. The policy of making the North pay the taxes, raise the money for Liberty bonds and furnish the men for the army and in return be eliminated from the Government is but the expansion of the Southern policy of making negroes till the soil, work the mines, lay the railways and produce the money. They in turn are stripped of all and denied even representation in the smallest way in any portion of the Government.

Mr. Wilson being a Southern man, accepts the Southern policy and is seeking to fasten upon the nation what the South has fastened upon the colored race, taxation without representation.

That the country will defeat this boldest attempt at tyrannical autocracy is not to be questioned. The nation is duty bound to have government by the people and not by an oligarchy.

In defeating this evil THE SUN will be foremost champion.

WILLIAM A. BYRD.
JERSEY CITY, November 1.

A Baptist Pastor on Thirteen Per Cent. Rule.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your editorial article this morning on "The Solid South" and her "13 per cent." I think will not only be the cause of many Democrats—cringing Democrats—staying home, but a warning to a certain would-be czar to get ready to pack up for home. Now, if ballots cast count and you take away the 8,000,000 blacks whose ballots were not cast but fraudulently counted in the electoral college, then Mr. Wilson was not really elected President, but counted in by the electoral college, a piece of thievery of this same "Solid South."

How any decent Democrat can vote to continue this cheap rulership I cannot understand. I think the Northern Democrats are face to face with the same duty they faced in '61. One of those disfranchisers is up in New England now telling us how to vote. People here govern by the consent of the governed. He governs in spite of the governed. He is either the boldest of autocrats or thinks New England Republicans are the biggest fools outside the madhouse.

W. B. REED.
HARTFORD, Conn., October 31.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* This entire nation is made debtor to THE SUN. Your editorial with its fine array of facts regarding the ruling 13 per cent. makes a long time reader say, "This is THE SUN of Dana; no pussy footing in those editorials; just the real thing."

Keep it up. Just make people feel there are at least a few real American papers big enough to tell the truth and remain unafraid.

Your fine showing up of Kitchin is the cleanest cut newspaper work of recent years. A. O.
NEW YORK, November 1.

Which Was It?

Knicker—An Exalted Personage forgot himself.
Bocker—Or else remembered himself.

The Crosses Speak.

Spoke the Pencilled Cross
From the ballot white:
"I am threatened loss
Of my ancient right.
Freedom I would claim,
I am told thereat
I must choose the name
Of a Democrat."

Spoke the Wooden Cross
From the field of fame:
"From the battle lose,
Lo, I choose a name.
Nothing do I know
Of the valiant man
Save he fought the foe,
An American."

MCLANDBURGH WILSON.

THE PRESIDENT'S APPEAL FOR UNDIVIDED MASTERY.

Treaty Faith and Scraps of Paper.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The President ties us up with a virtual treaty in his request for an adjournment of politics, believes and finds that we are fairly honorable and then on the eve of election and without notice springs his unwarranted and unprecedented attack on the Republican party. Did Germany do much differently from that in her treatment of a certain scrap of paper? I think not. W. E. S.
PASSAIC, N. J., October 31.

The Insult to Patriots.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* "If you are not a Democrat you are a traitor, and such being the case the Secretary is instructed to cast one vote for each of the retiring Democratic Congressmen as well as for every candidate for any office running on a Democratic ticket. This being done, I declare the polls closed and all the said Democrats unanimously elected."

This is the proposal put before 60,000,000 free men by this brazen attempt to deprive the Republican voters of the United States of representation in the houses of Congress.

We entered this war to make the world safe for democracy, and while we are trying to free Germany from Kaiserism and will only deal with the representatives of the German people, the Administration is trying to stifle the voice of the American people and to assume the power of an autocracy.

I await with the utmost confidence the result of the boomerang on next Tuesday. R. E. TUCKER.
NEW YORK, November 1.

Awaiting the Return of the Jury.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The President has issued the challenge. Colonel Roosevelt, Senator Knox and Judge Hughes have replied, and on Tuesday next that great body of liberty loving Americans of all political shades will have announced by their ballots that in the language quoted by the late Mayor Gaynor, "This is a government of law and not of men."

C. MELVILLE SMITH.
ST. JAMES, November 1.

Thoughts Inspired by the Assault on Free Institutions.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Who in hell is House?

The next appeal from the White House will probably give notice that none but Democrats may participate in the war.

A new slogan for Wilson and McAdoo: "Put none but Democrats on guard."

How fortunate that the recent appeal from the White House was not made before the recent Liberty Loan.

ALBANY, November 1. C. R. S.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In view of the President's recent appeal to "My Countrymen" I believe we Republicans have been too sensitive in criticism of the Administration. Much that has happened could and should have been severely criticised.

The President's appeal is beyond comprehension when analyzed in the light of what has happened in Congress and the Senate during the last two years.

Our patriotic gentleman's agreement to subordinate politics to the winning of the war was but a scrap of paper. Let us be up and doing.

To the polls, I say. The answer must be written there.

UNCONDITIONAL SURRENDER.
NEW YORK, November 1.

The Thoughts of the Shades.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Returning to suburban Boston I walked last night through the old streets of Charlestown, and in the shadow of Bunker Hill I saw two ghostly figures gazing curiously at the monument silhouetted against the sky. One spectre wore the garb of ancient Rome, the other the dress of Mexico.

"This," said the Mexican wraith, "is the memento raised to the rude farmers who shot up a King's men and set up an absurd government based on the wishes of the governed."

"Yes," chuckled the Roman. "The egregious folly called democracy. I put it out of business in Rome."

"And I in Mexico," laughed the Mexican.

"And now, Porfirio," the Roman said, "the foolish Americans are spending billions and slaying thousands to give this illusion of democracy to Europe."

"They are balancing their European folly, Julius," snickered Porfirio, "by letting it slip out of their grasp at home. Our class disappears for a while, but we never die."

"Porfirio," the bald Roman wraith laughed, "we have many reincarnations, mostly phrase makers and penmen. We had the sword. Both will bear watching."

I fled in a cold sweat.

QUINCY O'HARA.
BOSTON, Mass., November 1.

It Was Not.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* In Mr. Tumulty's quotations from various public men who in 1898 appealed for the election of Republicans to office upon the ground that this would sustain President McKinley and aid him in his efforts to bring about peace, I fail to find any quotation from the then President of the United States, William McKinley.

Can you tell me if this omission was an inadvertence on the part of Mr. Tumulty? REPUBLICAN PATRIOT.
BROOKLYN, November 1.

The Ancient Practice.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Congress has always been elected heretofore without direct dictation by the Executive. GRIMAUD.
HUDSON FALLS, November 1.

A World Safe for What?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* The President, or as he Huningly, camouflagingly calls himself, the "servant" of his countrymen, by his last political effusion seems to divulge a purpose of making the world safe for dictatorships, not democracies. EDWIN R. LEAVITT.
NEW YORK, November 1.

Shall We Have Free Determination?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* One of the principles enunciated by President Wilson in his fourteen articles, and dwelt upon by repeated utterances, is that of "the free determination of peoples." Mr. Wilson has laid down the doctrine that the people of each nation, large or small, shall have the undisputed right to determine their own form of government and select their own rulers without any force or power imposed on them by any other nation. In his speech of September 27, delivered in New York city, is the following: "Shall a people be ruled and dominated even in their internal affairs by arbitrary or irresponsible force or by their own will and choice?"

Contrast these teachings and propositions with the strange and remarkable doctrine now laid down by Mr. Wilson in his political appeal to "My Fellow Countrymen." He now demands of the American people that he be created and allowed to continue the sole power in the Government of the United States to determine all questions of war or peace without regard to the mandates of the Constitution and the laws and practices of the land.

Shall Mr. Wilson's "fellow countrymen" "be ruled and dominated in their internal affairs by arbitrary and irresponsible force or by their own will and choice"? AN AMERICAN.
EASTON, Pa., October 31.

Mr. Wilson Must Have Read Them.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I wonder if the President ever read these words of Macaulay:

Then none were for a party;
Then all were for the state.

CHARLES R. SKINNER.
ALBANY, November 1.

In One Democratic Household.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I am a Democrat, as were my ancestors since the beginning of the last century, but I am an American first, last and all the time. This means that yours truly will vote the straight Republican ticket on Tuesday next, and so will his wife, God bless her for her intelligence!

Here's to the utmost confusion of sectional government and to the throttling of American Kaiserism.

HOMO AMERICANUS.
NEW YORK, November 1.

Possibilities.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* If the next Congress is Republican it is possible the people may learn what profits the South has reaped from 35 cent cotton, that great essential, the price of which has not been fixed by a Democratic Congress, although the prices and practically all essentials produced in the North have been.

Furthermore, we may be able to learn in what manner the billions of dollars which the country has supplied during the last two years have been spent.

C. FRANK KIRKEKER.
PATERSON, N. J., November 1.

What Is a Democracy?

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* After reading the recent appeal of the President to the voters of the country to elect only Democrats to the next Congress I was constrained to ask myself "What is democracy?"

It would seem that the President's idea of a "safe" democracy is a nation where only those who call themselves Democrats are entitled to a voice in the government, and in the coming election at least there shall be but one voice and one party. The Republicans may furnish the sinews of war in men and money, but can have no voice in conducting it.

In other words, they must surrender "unconditionally" while the President parleys with the enemies of the nation. It would seem, therefore, that while we are engaged in a great war over seas to "make the world safe for democracy" we must also fight at home to make democracy safe for the world.

A FORMER ADMIRER OF PRESIDENT WILSON.
NEWARK, N. J., November 1.

The Story of a Telegram to President Wilson.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* I cannot resist congratulating you on the leader in yesterday's SUN. It is the most convincing and masterly presentation of the attitude of our Jekyll and Hyde Representative that has been presented during the campaign. At last his mask is off, and those who have been hoodwinked before can now see his real character in its full effulgence.

I am enclosing a copy of my pamphlet on "The Crucifixion of Belgium," reprinted in the *Congressional Record* at the request of the one Republican Congressman whose patriotism led him to resign his seat and enter the army, and who has since given his life for the great cause—the Hon. Augustus P. Gardner.

The following extracts written over four years ago are interesting, for it cannot now be denied that had adequate preparation been made for what every student of history must have then seen was inevitable the war would have long since been finished, millions and millions of precious lives would have been saved, and enormous destruction of property and indescribable sufferings would have been avoided.

On August 22, 1914, when the recrudescence of barbarism now devastating Europe had shocked the civilized world, I sent the following cablegram from Antwerp to President Wilson. It had the indorsement of the Belgian military authorities, and every word in it has since been verified by Viscount Bryce in his report to Parliament. It is as follows:

MY DEAR MR. PRESIDENT: Unless the barbarism of the German Kaiser ceases, the civilization of Europe will be set back a century. The rules of The Hague tribunal have been grossly ignored. Innocent women and children have been bayoneted. Old men and noncombatants have been shot. The white flag and Red Cross ambulances have been fired upon. A Belgian Red Cross officer was shot while assisting at the burial of a dead German. Villages of noncombatants have been burned and historic monuments desecrated. Churches have been sacked and hostages murdered. This morning bombs dropped from a Zeppelin in an attempt to assassinate the royal family, killed eleven citizens and desperately wounded many more. This is not war, but murder.

As Vice-President of the Peace and Arbitration League of the United States, I implore you in the name of humanity and justice to back American protest so vigorously that German vandalism must cease and the future disarmament of Europe made possible.

LOUIS LIVINGSTON SEAMAN.

Mr. Wilson at that time had every opportunity to prove the truth of my report, but it was disregarded, and he failed to protest against the greatest crime of history—the monstrous infringement on international law and the fundamental rights of humanity. Had he then protested in the name of The Hague tribunal and civilization—and made immediate preparations to enforce his protest, his name would have gone down to history coupled with that of Washington and Lincoln. Instead, it is more likely to be coupled with that of Dr. Jekyll and Mr. Hyde. There would have been no Lusitania and Arabic murders to commemorate, and no Belgian deportations to shock the world, and America would have maintained the ideals for which our forebears since the days of Magna Charta were not "too proud to fight."

Now let the responsibility for subsequent events be placed where it belongs and let there be no peace without unconditional surrender.

LOUIS LIVINGSTON SEAMAN, M. D.,
Late Surgeon Major, U. S. V.
NEW YORK, October 31.

4TH LIBERTY LOAN HIT $6,866,416,300

New York District Subscribed $2,000,000,000 and Led in Oversubscription.

McADOO THANKS WORKERS

Boston Leads in Percentage of Subscription to Quota—N. Y. Is Ninth.

Special Despatch to THE SUN.

WASHINGTON, Nov. 1.—Despite the handicap of influenza, peace talk and the impending revenue legislation, the American people "put over" in the Fourth Liberty Loan the greatest financial achievement of all history. The loan was oversubscribed by almost a billion dollars. Official figures announced by the Treasury Department to-day put the total at $6,866,416,300.

These figures although official are not final. They are to be revised and the revision probably will show the total above $6,900,000,000.

More than 21,000,000 persons subscribed. Before the final count the number will be near 22,000,000, making the average individual subscription $325. The average individual subscription on the first loan was $445. This latest loan shows a much wider distribution. The third loan was taken by 18,300,000 persons.

N. Y. Leads in Oversubscription.

Every Federal Reserve district more than subscribed its qdota in the fourth loan, as in the past. The New York district led the country in the amount of oversubscription, subscribing $2,000,000,000 with an oversubscription of $200,000,000. In percentage of oversubscription New York was ninth on the list, but no other district equalled its amount of oversubscription by even half.

The results by districts, arranged in the order of percentage of oversubscriptions, are estimated by the Federal Reserve banks as follows:

District.	Quota.	Sub.	Per cent. of subscription to quota.
Boston	$560,000,000	$632,221,850	126.44
Richmond	280,000,000	345,000,000	123.22
Philadelphia	500,000,000	598,500,000	119.68
Cleveland	600,000,000	696,536,000	116.09
Minneapolis	240,000,000	279,614,350	116.00
St. Louis	260,000,000	295,117,900	113.50
Atlanta	192,000,000	215,853,250	112.32
Dallas	126,000,000	140,741,600	111.69
New York	1,800,000,000	2,000,000,000	111.11
Chicago	870,000,000	969,579,250	110.29
Kansas City	280,000,000	284,953,750	108.59
San Francisco	402,000,000	426,000,000	105.97
Total	$6,000,000,000	$6,866,416,300	114.44

McAdoo Thanks Workers.

In announcing the official figures Secretary McAdoo said:

"The great success of the loan is new and convincing evidence of the determined spirit of America to carry on the war until freedom is assured throughout the world.

"But even with the highest purpose and patriotism on the part of the people this great result could not have been achieved without intelligent direction and organization. I wish to thank the Liberty Loan committees, both men and women, the bankers and business men, farmers, wage earners, railroad officers and employees and every group of citizens who have so ably and enthusiastically cooperated with the Treasury in conducting the campaign.

"To the press of the country especial credit is due for emphasizing through its news columns and editorial pages the necessity for making this great loan successful.

"In spite of the influenza epidemic, the unenacted revenue bill and other unfavorable factors, the American people have consummated the greatest financial achievement in all history."

Heavy oversubscription of the loan places the Treasury in the most comfortable financial position it has been in since the first loan. There have been issued $4,500,000,000 in certificates of indebtedness, which will be returned on loan subscriptions, leaving the Treasury something more than $2,000,000,000 to collect in cash.

Though the rate of expenditures has very nearly reached the rate of $2,000,000,000 a month, this balance probably will postpone temporary financing until 1919. The Treasury balance is now over $1,000,000,000 and with the tax customs and other receipts can be maintained until the end of the year.

Figures on actual distribution of the loan to individual investors are not yet available, but the number of subscribers indicates wide distribution.

WETTEST NEW YORK.

Comprehensive Plan for the Promotion of Sport.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* As I have seen no reference to the following enterprise in any of the papers, I fear that it has escaped the notice of the press.

There is a company being formed, the object of which is to stock the new B. R. T. subway with brook trout, so that fishing may be indulged in between trains.

In order to insure the success of the enterprise, a large quantity of eels will also be installed, as there is some doubt whether trout will thrive there, and eels surely will. Bait will be procurable at the ticket offices, and it is hoped that the sport will soon be opened to the public, presumably first at the Canal street station, where conditions are the best. E. M. L.
NEW YORK, November 1.

The Perspicacity of Lo, the Untutored Indian.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Was it not within the last year that in a rare flight of humor President Wilson spoke of an Oklahoma reservation Indian who upon being asked the object of the war replied without hesitation that "it was to make the world safe for the Democrats"?

Republicans and Democrats alike enjoyed the merry sally, but lo, the sagacity, the perceptivity of the poor, untutored Indian! No beautiful platform of ideals deceived this real American. Never for a moment was he fooled.

And there is this to be said in favor of this truthful aborigine, he made his reply in the period before politics was adjourned. F. G. L.
YONKERS, November 1.

Educational Changes in Missouri.

From the Kansas City Times.

Whippings are so rare in Missouri schools nowadays that the teachers are able to keep records of them. In the old days separate bookkeepers would have been required.

Figuratively Speaking.

Armchair politicians;
Parlor brigadiers;
Let me add a new one—
Kitchinet financiers!

HOWARD SUTHERLAND.

ELECTRIC LINES FOR PUBLIC OWNERSHIP

American Railway Association Decides Change Is Only Remedy for Conditions.

MANY FACE SUSPENSION

Over 400 Roads Represented at Meeting to Consider Financial Problems.

A resolution indorsing public ownership as "the most obvious remedy for the perils now confronting the street railway industry" was adopted at the conference of the American Electric Railway Association, held yesterday in the Engineering Societies Building, 29 West Thirty-ninth street. The text of the resolution voted upon by executives representing between 400 and 500 of the country's most important city and interurban line railways follows:

"The American Electric Railway Association recommends to its member companies that they facilitate in every reasonable way the public acquisition of the present electric railway properties, arranging such terms of payment as will conveniently accord with the financial limitations of the present laws of the respective States or municipalities, and that they assist in the promotion of such enabling legislation as may be deemed necessary by the public authorities to bring about the fullest measure of public ownership of electric railways and their fullest expansion to fully meet the needs of the respective communities."

Speakers at the conference emphasized the serious situation confronting the public utilities of the country by reason of the increased costs of operation and maintenance and their inability to obtain a commensurate increase in fare standards. Some of the speakers called attention to the fact that the Government had regulated many of the details in the operation of the companies, including the wages to be paid to labor, but had neglected to regulate the fares so that the companies might meet the increased costs.

Fare Readjustments Imperative.

J. D. Mortimer, president of the Milwaukee Electric Railway and Light Company, who introduced the public ownership resolution, declared that of all the businesses affected by war time burdens the electric railways had received the least sympathy at the hands of the public. The war, he said, had raised prices and wages to unprecedented figures and had increased the "cost of capital" to such an extent that money could no longer be borrowed for the necessary extensions and betterments or for refunding purposes. Without extensive readjustments in fares, he asserted, the companies were unable to earn compensatory returns, and as a result of the inequity between the expenditures and the receipts the continued operation of the various systems was threatened.

"Regulation by State commissions," Mr. Mortimer declared, "has proved unsuccessful because of restrictive laws resulting from incomplete legislation, or court decisions, and incompetence or lack of courage, or both, on the part of the officials themselves, as well as the failure of the managers to understand all of the tendencies of the business."

Municipal franchises, Mr. Mortimer said, were not the valuable assets that many people believe them to be, and in some cases were actually valueless and unnecessary, except as they were required by law to permit the use of the streets. On this proposition, as well as on the need of public ownership, Mr. Mortimer was seconded by Richard McCulloch, president of the United Railways of St. Louis, who declared that franchises were now practically valueless and were no more than permits to lay rails in public streets.

Roads' Situation Is Desperate.

"Neither the public nor the regulating bodies," said Mr. McCulloch, "are inclined to allow the utilities to charge rates which will permit them to live, and in the desperate situation that the industry confronts public ownership would solve the question of service."

Other advantages of public ownership, the speaker thought, were that it would permit of operating economies such as the skip stop train system, the staggering of business hours, the short routing of cars, police cooperation in keeping tracks clear of vehicles and other aids to cheaper service. It would solve also, he held, the problem of constantly increasing wages, since the employees could be put in the civil service and their pay regulated as is that of firemen, policemen and other city employees. The fare question also would have to be readjusted through Government ownership, Mr. McCulloch maintained, or the public would have to assume through the tax budget such deficiencies as might occur.

"Electric railway executives," added the speaker, "should be the last to oppose public ownership. They will be accused of selfish interest—a desire to hold onto their jobs. Our only real selfish interest is that of the investors. We should see to it that they are protected in their investment or that their principal is returned to them."

The nickel fare charged on most of the car lines to-day, said John J. Stanley, president of the association and head of the Cleveland Railway Company, is in reality only a two and one-half cent fare. The leading economists, he said, agree that the purchasing power of a dollar has decreased at least 50 per cent. since the early '90s.

Therefore, he argued, to put the fare of a street railway on a parity with what it received in the decade from 1890 to 1900 it would now be necessary to substitute the dime for the nickel.

Three Amendments.

TO THE EDITOR OF THE SUN—*Sir:* Your editorial article entitled "Three Amendments to the State Constitution" was certainly most instructive.

There have recently been references in your columns to nineteen amendments to the State Constitution which the voters will be asked to pass upon at the coming election. I have always felt that the public in general were not sufficiently informed in advance on such matters so as to pass upon them intelligently at the polls.

Therefore, could you not print these amendments in full with comments, which I know would be very much appreciated not only by the undersigned, but by thousands of others.

PERCY W. SHEPARD.
NEW YORK, November 1.

Only three amendments and one proposition will be submitted to the people this year. The other amendments must be approved by the Legislature to be elected on Tuesday before the electors pass on them.

The Puzzle.

The Sphinx propounded a riddle.

"If an unembarrassed spokesman is embarrassed already, how could anything else embarrass him?" the Sphinx asked